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THE CYNTHIANA NEWS.

OPEN TO BOTH PARTIES—THE ORGAN OF NEITHER.

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Select Poetry.

Away with Gloom.

BY JOHN YEOMAN.

Spurn the lines which sorrow traces;
Laugh the ills of life away.
They who wear the gladdest faces
Always live the longest day.

Why complain, though fortune press thee?
Why repine at lowly birth,
While contentment still may bless thee
With the joys of pealing mirth?

Art thou rich in pounds and rubles?
Dost thou sleep on beds of down?
Laugh to see how vain the bubbles
Which deceive the gaping clown.

What though thy years are many,
And the locks are turning gray;
Hast thou not a hope of any
Joy beyond the mortal day?

Thou hast dreamed, perhaps, of glory;
Fate has held thee under ban;
Still unknown to song or story
Thou canst be a merry man.

Toil not after gilded sadness;
Let not woe thy soul entice;
For the earth is full of gladness
Offered thee without a price.

Dost thou speak of cares and troubles?
Cares and troubles, what are they?
Nothing more than floating bubbles.
Which a laugh may drive away.

Laugh, and charm the Fates to listen;
Hast all gloomy fancies down;
Thus shall TIME forget to hasten;
And even DEATH relax his frown.

[HISTORICAL.]

Plans to Erect an Independent Government in the West—French and Spanish Intrigues.

In the spring of 1793, Genet, the French Minister arrived in this country, and was received with great enthusiasm by the people who sympathised with the new Republic of France. He at once began a series of intrigues to involve the United States in a war with the enemies of France. He proceeded to arm and equip privateers, and to enlist negroes in the American ports to cruise against the commerce of England and Spain as if this country were a part of France.

He also sent agents to the Spanish colonies in South America to incite the slaves to rebellion in the United States.

Then again he sent agents to Spain to secure the free navigation of the Mississippi, the excuse upon distilled liquors, the Indian war, which was considered the base truckling to England, and the still baser desertion of France in her terrible struggles with the leagued despotism of Europe, all became subjects of passionate declamation in the clubs and violent invectives in the papers. The protracted negotiation with Spain, relative to the navigation of the Mississippi, which was then in her dominions, had not been closed.

The people of the West were jealous upon that subject, and of the intentions of the Federal Government. It was rumored that government was about to form an alliance with England, that hated power, against their well beloved France, and that the old project of giving up to Spain the sole right of navigating the Mississippi was to be revived.

Aware of this deep feeling against the Federal Government, Genet sent four French agents to Kentucky to enlist an army of two thousand men, under the banners of France, to descend the Ohio and Mississippi in boats, and attack, conquer and bring the Spanish settlements under the dominion of France.

These emissaries found their plans met with the warmest approbation, and some of the leading men in Kentucky enlisted in the corps, among whom was General George Rogers Clarke, who was then upon commission Major General in the French service. The free navigation of the Mississippi forever would be the only direct benefit accruing to Kentucky, but French pay, French rank, and magnificent donations of land in the conquered provinces, were the allurements held out to private adventurers.

President Washington, acting under information from the Minister of the King of Spain, used his efforts to suppress these movements. In consequence, Gen. Wayne, whose cavalry was then wintering in Kentucky, wrote to Gov. Shelly, that he should, by force of arms, repress any illegal expedition from Kentucky. The Governor, in his reply to the Secretary of State, said that he doubted if this could be legally done, for it was lawful for one citizen to leave a State, it was equally so for any number. Again, he said, "Much less would I assume power to exercise it against men whom I consider as friends and brethren in favor of a man whom I view as an enemy and a tyrant. I had also a few but little inclination to take an active part in punishing or restraining my fellow-citizens for a supposed intention only, to gratify or remove the fears of the minister of a power who openly withholds from us an invaluable right, and who secretly instigates against us a most savage and cruel enemy."

These sentiments were prevalent among a vast majority of all classes of citizens. Upon receiving this answer, Washington, justly alarmed, ordered Gen. Wayne to occupy Fort Massac, which stood on the Ohio river, in the Illinois country, with his artillery, and to take other necessary steps to arrest this rash expedition.

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About this period, the Spanish authorities attempted an intrigue with Wilkinson, Sebastian, Innis and Nicholas, all prominent men of Kentucky. From 1787, when Wilkinson made his first trip to New Orleans, until he took part in the Indian war in 1791, he held constant intercourse with the Spanish provinces; but whether his plans reached only so far as to form a commercial treaty with those provinces that would secure the navigation of the Mississippi to the west, or contemplated a disunion of the west from the east, is yet in doubt. He, however, in 1808, and again in 1811, was tried before a court martial on a charge of having received a pension from Spain in consideration of his turning traitor and effecting a disunion of the States, but was triumphantly acquitted.

In the summer of 1797, Thomas Powers, agent for Carondelet, Governor of the Spanish Provinces, came to Kentucky from Louisiana, and sent a communication to Sebastian for his consideration, and that of Nicholas Innis. Murray and others whom they might see fit to consult upon the subject. This paper contained a plan by which the west was to rise and receive its independence of the Union, and for a government wholly dependent of the Atlantic States.

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